NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY FINDINGS FORM

Planning Area: West Texas HMAZ/LMAZ Area: El Paso BDTP: F/MS SUBPOPULATION: African American men (1,12)

	# of surveys completed: 10	
	Information from needs assessment surveys	Assessment
Risk Behaviors (13,15,16, 22,24,25, 26,27,28,29 30,33)	 44% reported two or more partners in the past year; 11% reported more than 3 partners in the past year. None of the respondents indicated they had a sex partners in the past year who have HIV or an STD. 10% say they had been treated for an STD in the past year. 20% (two) reported engaging in anal sex. Of those engaging in anal sex, 50% (one) reported never using a condom and one reported almost always using a condom for anal sex. 75% almost never use a condom for oral sex. 40% almost never use a condom for vaginal sex. Respondents provided no locations where African American F/MS men engaged in risky behaviors. The top things African American F/MS men said they do to keep from getting HIV are (in order): don't inject drugs [50%]¹, only have sex with 1 partners [40%], always use condoms for protection [30%], don't abuse alcohol or drugs [30%], and sometimes use a condom for protection [20%]. Survey respondents indicated a similar pattern of responses for protection against STDs. 	 A moderate proportion of the respondents reported they have engaged in sex with multiple partners. There is a low prevalence of HIV and STDs in the population based on the morbidity profile for this population. Reported condom use for vaginal sex is similar to that reported in the risk profile. In contrast, the proportion of respondents indicating using a condom for oral and anal sex is higher in the risk profile

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² Information collected from the Counseling and Testing System for HIV positives, 1999-2000.

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*Knowledge (9,11)	 Among African American F/MS men: 70% indicated that anal sex without a condom may increase a person's chance of getting HIV, 70% for getting STDs other than HIV. 50% and 70% indicated that oral and vaginal sex without a condom, respectively, may increase a person's chance of getting HIV and 70 and 80% respectively, for getting STDs other than HIV. 60% indicated that sex-trade work may increase a person's chance of getting HIV, 60% for getting STDs other than HIV. 60% indicated that unprotected sex under the influence may increase a person's chance of getting STDs other than HIV. 80% indicated sex with more than one partner may increase a person's chance of getting HIV and 70% for getting STDs other than HIV. 90% indicated that injecting drugs and sharing works may increase a person's chance of getting HIV, 50% for getting STDs other than HIV. 60% indicated that injecting drugs and sharing works may increase a person's chance of getting HIV and 80% for getting STDs other than HIV. 60% indicated that having sex with men may increase a person's chance of getting HIV and 80% for getting STDs other than HIV. 80% indicated that engaging in sex with a woman who has engaged in risky behaviors may increase a person's chance of getting HIV and 70% for getting STDs other than HIV. 70% indicated that blood transfusions may increase a person's chance of getting HIV, 20% for getting STDs other than HIV. 70% indicated that needle sticks may increase a person's chance of getting HIV, 20% for getting STDs other than HIV. 90% indicated that a being born to a mother with HIV may increase a person's chance of getting HIV, 20% for getting STDs other than HIV. 90% indicated that a being born to a mother with HIV may increase a person's chance of getting STDs other than HIV. 	Between 70 and 80% of the respondents showed good knowledge of HIV transmission routes. Generally, the responses indicate this community has moderate knowledge about HIV. The proportion of the respondents answering STD questions was lower than observed for HIV questions. These results indicate that this sub-population may need additional education on HIV and STD transmission.
*Attitudes & beliefs (10,32,34)	On average, African American F/MS men indicated they strongly agreed that a person should tell their sex partner(s) if they have HIV or an STD whether using condoms or not. The top reasons African American F/MS men	 Primary barriers to condom use were partner trust, condoms not being available, and don't like condoms.
	• The top reasons African American F/MS men indicated they had sex without a condom are (in order): they trust their partner [50%] ¹ , condoms were not available [10%], and don't like condoms [10%].	 Considering the morbidity rates in this community and the risk behaviors indicated, the personal perception of risk may be realistic.

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*Current communication skills (14)	 67% indicated they were not likely to get HIV. 70% indicated they were not likely to get an STD. 29% of the African American F/MS men who responded indicated they have talked about getting HIV with at least some of their partners. 29% of the African American F/MS men who responded indicated they have talked about getting an STD other than HIV with at least some of their partners. 	While most of the African American F/MS men indicated they should discuss risk for an STD or HIV with their partner, less than one- third of the respondents indicated they have discussed risks with their partners. This suggests there may be need for additional communication skills in this sub-population.
*Social/peer support (17)	 When asked who they would tell if they had contracted HIV or an STD other than HIV, the following proportions of African American F/MS men indicated they would tell: Their family; 100% for HIV, 89% for an STD. Their current partner(s); 100% for HIV, 89% for an STD. Their past partner(s); 100% for HIV, 83% for an STD. 	The majority of the respondents reported they would be comfortable telling family, friends, and partners if they contracted HIV. They are less likely to talk about an STD infection, particularly with their friends.
Testing history/need for testing (18-23)	 Their friends; 100% for HIV, 60% for an STD. 30% of survey respondents indicated they have tested for HIV in the past year. Of those who were tested, they tested an average of 2 times per year. The reasons African American F/MS men indicated they have tested is part of routine care [30%]¹. None of those surveyed indicated they have tested positive for HIV. 30% of the respondents tested for an STD other than HIV in the past year. Of those testing, they tested an average of 2 times per year. 33% of African American F/MS men who have tested for an STD in the past year indicated they have tested positive for an STD. All of those treated in the past year indicated they have been treated for an STD multiple times in the past year. The reasons cited for not testing for an STD were (in order): don't think they are at risk [10%]¹, and they don't want to know they have an STD [10%]. 30% of respondents indicated they have tested for Hepatitis A in the past year, 30% for Hepatitis B, 40% for Hepatitis C, and 50% tested for Tuberculosis. 20% or respondents who didn't test 	 Testing proportions for these respondents are low with over 30% of this group testing each year. Those who test, do so an average of 2 times a year, about one test for every two partners reported last year. Emphasis should be placed on getting those who don't test and engage in risky activities to test regularly and overcoming the barriers to their testing. 30% of respondents indicated HIV testing as a preventive behavior, part of routine care. A moderate proportion of the respondents indicated they were tested for an STD in the past year. The frequency of testing (2 times a year for those who tested) is approximately one STD exam

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	indicated they did not test because they had no symptoms and 10% didn't test because they didn't believe they were at risk for these diseases.	 for every sex partner reported. Between 30 and 50% of respondents indicated they have been tested for other diseases in the past year.
Prevention services currently accessed (19,21) Note: For testing, community-based organizations and corrections were not provided as a response option.	 The top locations African American F/MS men go for an HIV test are (in order): hospitals [20%]¹, and doctor's offices [10%]. The only locations African American F/MS men indicated they go for an STD test are: hospitals [20%]¹, and doctor's offices [10%]. No respondents indicated that there were barriers in their community to seeking prevention services. The top locations where African American F/MS men have gotten HIV and STD information are (in order): health care providers [20%]¹, and health fairs [20%]. The top locations where African American F/MS men have gotten information on HIV and STDs that has helped them are (in order): health care providers [10%]¹, the library [10%], and family or friends [10%]. 	 The primary source for HIV testing is through private providers but some seek testing through public clinics and hospitals. No respondents indicated barriers to accessing HIV and STD prevention services. The primary source of HIV and STD information reported by the survey respondents was primarily through private providers and health fairs. The most useful information was obtained from health care providers, the library, and family or friends.
Prevention needs (35-39)	 For those indicating they wanted to know more to help protect them from acquiring HIV, the following activities were requested (in order): basic information on HIV/STDs [60%]¹, how to have safe sex [50%], how to talk with partners about using condoms [20%], drug abuse counseling and treatment [10%], and how to use condoms [10%]. Primary locations where African American F/MS men indicated they would get information on HIV and STDs in the future are (in order): health fairs [60%]¹, community-based organizations [60%], health care providers [60%], the internet [60%], and telephone hotlines [60%]. Primary locations where African American F/MS men indicated they would NEVER get information on HIV or STDs in the future are (in order): bars [50%]¹, bath houses [50%], work [40%], shelters [30%], and church [20%]. 	 How to have safe sex, basic information on HIV/STDs, and communication skills training lead the activities wanted by African American F/MS men as needed services. The primary locations where African American F/MS men indicated they would go to get HIV and STD information are health care providers, community-based organizations, health fairs, the internet and telephone hotlines. The primary locations where African American F/MS men would never seek HIV or STD prevention messages are bars, bathhouses, work, shelters, and church.

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Specific Information about HIV ⁺ from HIV ⁺ risk profiles	 Statewide for all HIV positive African American F/MS men²: 56% of F/MS African American men HIV positive individuals indicated they never used a condom for anal sex, 29% for vaginal sex, and 62% for oral sex. Nearly 20% indicated an STD diagnosis in the past year. 30% indicated more than 1 sex partner in the past year. Less than 10% indicated some sex trade work in the past year, primarily buying sex. 65% indicated substance use with sex in the past year. Over 40% indicated their partners were at risk, and 26% indicated their partners had multiple partners. The top drugs used during sex were: alcohol [49%]¹, marijuana [29%] and cocaine [25%]. For all HIV positive F/MS men in the El Paso²: 50% of F/MS African American men HIV positive individuals indicated they never used a condom for vaginal sex. No information is available on condom use with oral and anal sex in this sub-population. None of the positives indicated an STD diagnosis in the past year. 67% indicated they had more than 1 partner in the past year. 50% reported buying sex in the past year. 67% indicated substance use with sex in the past year. 10% indicated their partner was at risk, and 100% indicated their partners had multiple partners. The top drugs used during sex were: alcohol [67%]¹, cocaine [17%] and marijuana [17%]. 	 The proportion of African American F/MS male positives reporting condom use for anal sex is similar to that observed in the needs assessment responses. Condom use among HIV positives for vaginal and oral sex is higher than reported through the needs assessment. Up to two in ten HIV positives African American F/MS men indicated an STD diagnosis in the previous year. This is significant considering approximately 30 to 70% of these positives also report multiple sex partners during the same time period. HIV positive F/MS African American men indicate a low perception of their partner's risk (10 to 40% said their partner was at risk). The drugs of choice for HIV positives were alcohol, marijuana, and cocaine.
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